Shortage of coal at Talcher Super Thermal Power Plant

1664. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NTPC is facing coal crisis and does not have enough coal for its 5th Power Plant of Talcher Thermal Power Plant;

(b) whether the crisis will further compound when the sixth 500 MW unit will be ready to generate power; and

(c) if so, what is the total requirement of coal of the Unit and the action plan of Government to help the unit to get going in for all of its power plants?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (c) Coal supply is usually not unit specific but for the entire station. However, with the commercial operation of the 5th unit of 500 MW at Talcher Kaniha station of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), there is a marginal shortfall of coal supply at Talcher Kaniha, which has resulted in a shortfall of 0.4% of generation with reference to Central Electricity Authority target set for NTPC for the period April, 2004 to February, 2005.

Coal shortfall is likely to continue after the 6th unit of Talcher Kaniha will commence commercial operation if there is delay in development of linked mines namely Kaniha-1 & 2 and Bhuwaneshwari by Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL).

The anticipated total coal requirement for the entire Talcher Kaniha Station that is for all the six units of 500 MW each, will be about 43,000 tons per day. NTPC would primarily rely on indigenous coal supply, however, in case of the gap between coal demand and availability/supply, coal import has been planned to improve the coal stock position. Thus, in order to meet the present coal requirement at various NTPC stations including Talcher Kaniha, NTPC has initiated action to import 2.1 million tones of coal @ 1.75 lakh tones per month for one year.

Safe drinking water

1665. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:

SHRIMATISAVITASHARDA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families who have access to safe drinking tap water in their own houses, State-wise;